Times-Virginian

IN THE HEART OF VIRGINIA'S TOBACCO BELT

Appomattox, Va.

ESTABLISHED IN 1892

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OUR DEMOCRACY

In these perplexing times, when many sincere citizens are so aroused and emotionally stirred that they think the democracy of our country is about to collapse, and that the people around them — many of them are consciously or unconsciously serving the communist cause, it may be well to keep in mind several things.

Democracy evolved over a long period as the system guaranteeing to the individual the right of dissent. It is system of government by the majority, with minority rights. It is the system of government whereby one may disagree with another, while at the same time being willing to die for the other's right to disagree.

We do not wish to curtail the very freedom which distinguishes our form of government from the communist tyranny. And it should be reassuring to all those who have faith in our great system to know that there are few in America who favor the cause of communism.

Our country will not collapse. The great majority are patriotic and would die for democracy if that became necessary. Differences in views on legislation, how much government is the best amount, should not be confused with patriotism or un-Americanism or Communism.

92-YEAR-OLD DRIVER QUITS

A resident of Huntington, West Virginia, has recently given up driving. He made his decision after another car had bumped into his 1936 model machine, putting a tremendous dent on the driver's side.

This man had been driving since 1919 and had never been involved in a serious accident until the recent collision. He stated to police that he "had had enough."

We feel sure that he was way ahead of the law of averages.

INCOME TAX RETURNS

The Internal Revenue Service has announced a timetable for installing a national network of electronic tax-checking machinery.

The electronic system will be introduced into the Atlanta region first. Business type returns filed in a number of Southern states will be checked by this electronic equipment, beginning on January 1, 1962. Individual returns will be handled after January 1, 1963.

One example of what the machine can do is as follows: It will be able to compare the interest or the dividends which a company claims that it paid to an individual with the claims made by the individual in his return. When the machine detects something wrong on the return it will produce tapped instruction for straightening out the return. These tapes will be sent back to appropriate sub headquarters where the information will be put on punch cards. The punch cards will be used to activate printing machines which write a letter to thax payers.

A question which occurs to us is this: when a taxpayer receives a letter from a machine and does not understand it, who is goirg to explain to the taxpayer just what it is all about?

Steelworkers ask curb on tax advantages.

KNOW THE WEATHER

By E. H. Sims

Is snow white?

No, snow is not white but looks white because of the great reflection of light. Likewise, the sky is not blue. Space and air are actually colorless, and if one goes far enough into space, and gets away from sunlight, everything will be black.

The reason the sky looks blue is that blue, of all the colors, refracts most easily, and therefore the light from the sun makes the sky blue.

Dust refracts red, which explains why the sun's light makes the evening sunset, quite often, appear to be a rich red.

PERFORMANCE TESTING PAYS IN PRODUCTION

You may really have a sharp eye, but chances are you can't tell by looking how your beef cattle are going to perform.

L. B. Allen, of the animal husbandry department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, say's it's hard to be consistently accurate in measuring production factors with the eye alone. This is one argument in favor of performance testing of beef cattle. Such testing began in 1953 in Virginia as a project of the Agricultural Experiment Station in cooperation with certain cattle breeders. The Experiment Station developed a sound program for comparison in performance testing, Allen says. In 1955 the Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association was organized, with members from all segments of the beef industary in Virginia.

In the Virginia BCIA program, the cattle breeder gets information on average daily gain, type score and index on each calf born in the herd. Indexes are calculated for each sire and each dam, and are brought up-to-date each year to include all offspring. Allen says the records should not be the sole basis for culling a cow or bull, but along with good management and a knowledge of the animals, they can be an important tool in improving performance.

Performance testing is based on inherited differences in ability to grow rapidly, use feed efficiently, and develop a carcass of correct type or conformation.

Any cattle breeder in Virginia is eligible to join the BCIA.

Anyone interested should contact his county agricultural agent, or write the Virginia BCIA, VPI, Blacksburg, for further information.

SHE WAS

Woman in traffic court: "I was driving down Congress Avenue with my husband at the wheel ....."

The Jet Journal, San Diago, Cal.

NEAT TRICK,

IF YOU CAN DO IT

Personality consists of acting natural and impressing people at the same time.

The Dubuque Telegraph-Herald (Iowa)

Herter advocates U. S. tie to Common Market.

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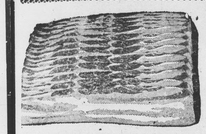
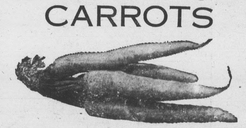
CHUCK ROAST Our Choice .49 lb.



Armour Star Bacon .49 lb.

CARROTS .10 BUNCH



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